

**Amendments to Claims**

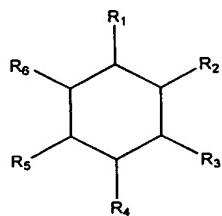
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

**Claim 1.** (Original) A method for the production of malate conjugated aromatic acids comprising: contacting a glycosylated aromatic acid with malate in the presence of an effective amount of sinapoylglucose:malate sinapoyltransferase which catalyzes the substitution of a glucose moiety on the glycosylated aromatic acid with a malate moiety to form a malate conjugated aromatic acid.

**Claims 2 and 3.** (Canceled)

**Claim 4.** (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of~~ Claims 1, 2 or 3 wherein the aromatic acid is described by the formula:



wherein

R<sub>1</sub> - R<sub>6</sub> are each independently H, or OH, or COOH or OR<sub>7</sub> or R<sub>7</sub>COOH; and R<sub>7</sub> is C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>20</sub> substituted or unsubstituted alkyl or substituted or unsubstituted alkenyl or substituted or unsubstituted alkylidene;

providing at least one of R<sub>1</sub> - R<sub>6</sub> is COOH.

**Claim 5.** (Original) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the aromatic acid is *para*-hydroxybenzoic acid.

**Claims 6-14** (Canceled)